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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract, as follows:

A system and method ~~for providing~~includes passive screening of transient
messages in a distributed computing environment ~~is described~~. A transient packet stream
is passively monitored at a network boundary. Incoming datagrams structured in
compliance with a network protocol layer are received. One or more of the incoming
datagrams are reassembled into a segment structured in compliance with a transport
protocol layer. Contents of the reassembled segment are scanned for a presence of at
least one of a computer virus and malware to identify infected message contents.